GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:667
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
PURCHASE OF NATURAL RUBBER THROUGH STC
GEORGE EDEN;RAMESH CHENNITHALA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the purchase of natural rubber from the rubber growers through State Trading Corporation in order to arrest the declining price of rubber and to help the rubber growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken to save the rubber sector as a whole?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 667 FOR 12.5.2000 REGARDING PURCHASE OF NATURAL RUBBER THROUGH S.T.C.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. To arrest the declining price of rubber and to help the rubber growers to get a remunerative price for their produce, the Government of India through STC has made a market intervention to procure natural rubber on Government account.So far STC has procured 30,623 MT of natural rubber and continues to procure natural rubber to meet the demands of user industries under Advance Licence.

(c) To enhance domestic demand for indigenous rubber, the Government of India (a) has banned the import of Natural Rubber under the Advance Licence Scheme w.e.f. 20.2.1999; (b) issued guidelines to the States / Union Territories for the use of rubber and polymer, modified bitumen for rubberisation of roads; and (c) prescribed a minimum c.i.f. value ceiling ranging from US $ 25 to US $ 175 on import of used / re-treaded tyres.